

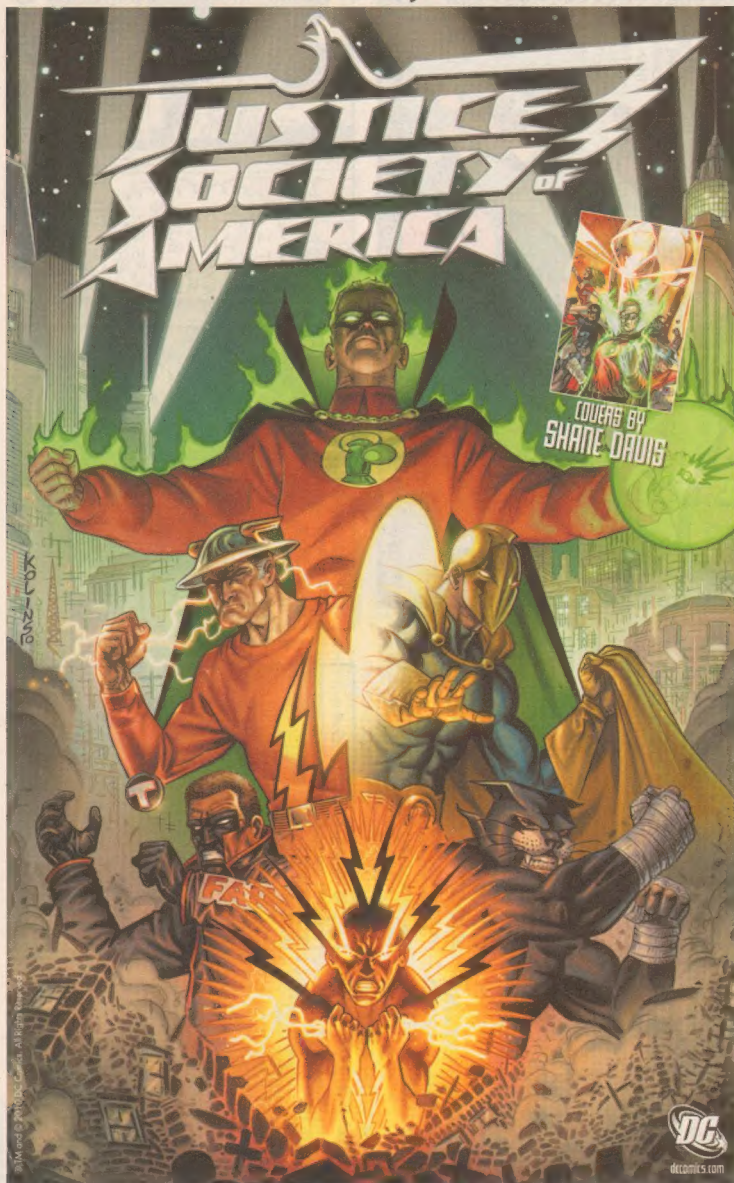
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COMIC SHOP NEWS



MARINEMAN

PREPARE FOR THE CITY OF TOMORROW!



ALL-NEW CREATIVE TEAM TAKES OVER IN OCTOBER WITH ISSUE 44

Written by **MARC GUGGENHEIM** Illustrated by **SCOTT KOLINS**

Some comic book events are months in the making; some longterm storylines take years to fully unravel. But *Ian Churchill* may have set a record with his new limited series *Marinemane*... because this title was more than three decades in the making!

No, Churchill is *not* the slowest creator in comics. It turns out that *Marinemane* is the culmination of a concept that dates back to Churchill's childhood. "1977 was the year I created *Marinemane*, and I would have been eight years old," Churchill said. "At that time I loved comics, drawing, super-heroes, underwater stuff, and TV! In fact, that's still the case—and I'm 41 now! I especially liked the old *Jacques Cousteau* shows that I used to watch with my Grandad..."

"Anyway, I would draw a picture of say, Spider-Man and run to show it to my dad with a big grin on my face, happy with what I'd drawn. He'd encourage me but would always end by asking if it was an original character—one that I had created. My answer was always no, and I got fed up with the same question all the time, so I decided to create my own character partly just to shut Dad up!

"The original concept for *Marinemane* was that he was a superhero and he could breathe underwater; that was enough for me! I was only eight years old! I revisited the character when I was around fourteen or fifteen, which is when I started to re-think things. The concept evolved over the years, and the final parts fell into place about eight years ago when I was driving through the Scottish highlands on the way back from an old school friend's wedding."

And just what is the final premise? "Steve Ocean, aka *Marinemane*, is a marine biologist and underwater documentary presenter much like *Jacques Cousteau* used to be. '*Marinemane*' is a professional nickname in the same way that *Steve Irwin* used to be called the Crocodile Hunter; to the general public he is an ordinary guy who just happens to be a minor celebrity. Of course, it turns out there's more to it than that!"

Did other aquatic heroes, such as Aquaman or the Sub-Mariner, influence the development of *Marinemane* in any way? "I'd have to say he was more inspired by the TV shows I used to watch back then than by comics," Churchill explained. "To give you an idea of the some of the shows I used to watch and love: *The Six Million Dollar Man*, *The Gemini Man*, *The Champions*, *Petrocelli*, *The Professionals*, *Rhoda*, *The Paper Chase*, *The High Chaparral*, *Star Trek*, *Grizzly Adams*, *The Beachcombers*, and the one that inspired me the most, *The Man From Atlantis*, which I almost never got to see! The original TV movie was aired at

Churchill Sends in the Marine

just after 9 o'clock in England, and I wasn't allowed to stay up that late when I was eight—but the night it was shown my parents were out, and my brother and I had a babysitter who let us stay up late to watch it!

As for comics influences—well, I only read Marvel comics back then, so *Marinemane*'s original costume was definitely inspired by the Sub-Mariner's; there was more costume than just swim shorts, but it was still scaly and green. For me, it was difficult to get DC comics where I lived as a kid. I was aware of Aquaman but I'd never read an Aquaman comic. Maybe that's subconsciously why I gave *Marinemane* blonde hair—although having said that, when I drew him in color I would give him blonde hair and when I drew him in B&W I would always give him black hair! And for some reason, I rarely gave him eyebrows either."

The concept doesn't sound like a traditional superhero book; does Churchill consider *Marinemane* a superhero comic *per se*? "Thinking about it, I suppose he isn't a superhero in the traditional sense. He isn't a crime fighter as such—more a super life guard—and if you're after the 'grim and gritty' then this probably isn't for you, although it does get a little darker around *Marinemane* #5."

"When you look back at the Marvel comics of the mid 1970's, you'll see they were written in a way that you could pick them up and enjoy them whether you were six or sixty—and that's what I'm aiming for. I'm trying to produce a comic that I would have wanted to read when I was eight and that I would still read and enjoy today, one that I can read with my young nephews without thinking, 'gee, maybe they shouldn't see that bit.'"

To put it in more contemporary terms, "I'd like to think the tone is similar to *Robert Kirkman's Invincible*," Churchill said. "I want it to be a fun and enjoyable read—a comic where characters *smile* instead of gritting their teeth all the time! So it will be light-hearted in some respects, but in general it'll be a rollicking underwater adventure story."

Earlier, Churchill implied that Steve Ocean keeps a secret from his admiring public; what's the nature of that secret, and how will it impact his life? "It's not giving too much away to say; his secret is that he can breathe underwater without the use of mechanical means, and if that were to be revealed to the public at large... well, that's why you'll have to pick up the book and find out what happens!"

Churchill is well known as an artist, but *Marinemane* "is

the first series that I've both written and drawn. When I was working on *The Coven* with Jeph Loeb, I plotted the first story arc and contributed a couple of lines of dialogue here and there, but until now my involvement hasn't really extended past the pencilling duties."

Are there any advantages and/or disadvantages to doing the whole book solo? "The upside of being the sole creator is that it's my vision with no compromise! The down side is that there's only one of me and there just aren't enough hours in the day! That, and no page rate! As with any creator-owned book, all the work is done up front and on spec."

By any chance, does Churchill have any of that original *Marinemane* art from three decades back, and if so, is there any chance he might share it with his readers? "Actually, yes I do still have some of that original work! Luckily for me, my mum is something of a pack rat; she kept pretty much everything I did from the time I started school until the day I left."

"I will be sharing that old stuff but I'll probably save it for the trade—but having said that, if anyone has a copy of *Richard Starking's Elephantmen* #25, they can flip it over to the *Marinemane* preview you can see, albeit small, the original cover to *Marinemane* #1 as drawn by the eight year old Ian Churchill!"

How did *Marinemane* end up at Image? "I've always admired the achievements *Richard Starkings*, *Paul Grist*, *Robert Kirkman*, and others have managed with their characters, and when I decided to take the plunge with *Marinemane*, Richard said nothing but good things about Image and how easy it was to work there. I had also worked with Image's publisher, *Eric Stephenson*, earlier in my career, so when I approached him about releasing *Marinemane* through Image Comics, it felt familiar and seemed like the right place to be."

Marinemane has been in active development for a while to ensure that the book appears on a timely basis. "One thing I was adamant about when I decided to go forward with the project, was that I didn't want to solicit the book until I had at least three issues drawn and in the bag. I didn't want to fall into the trap of soliciting and having the books ship late for one reason or another, because I know how much that upsets readers."

"So as of writing this, I am currently finishing up inking *Marinemane* #4; the first issue is complete, and I'm starting the coloring on the second issue."

So is it safe to assume that *Marinemane* leaves little time in Churchill's schedule for any other comics projects! "Ha!" The writer/artist said laughed. "I don't even have the time to use the bathroom!"

Rather than committing to an ongoing series right out of the gate, Churchill is testing the waters by launching *Marinemane* as a limited series. "Initially, it's scheduled for a six issue run. If it does well and people want to see more and I can make a living doing it, then to get it all out on a monthly schedule I would have to give up coloring it myself. That's what really slows me down—coloring with a mouse!"

"I'm hoping that readers like what they see; I'd like nothing better than to continue working on *Marinemane*. I hope everything works out so that I can!"

Marinemane #1, a \$3.99 comic written and illustrated by Ian Churchill, is scheduled for November release. To see more art, visit <http://www.cnsider.com/spotlight.htm>

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

OCEAN Encounters



With Steve 'MARINEMANE' Ocean

Arcana Delivers the Devil's Due

Back in July, fans of such Devil's Due properties as *Mercy Sparx*, *Misplaced*, *Defex*, and *Blade of Kumori* were disappointed to hear that the publisher was no longer offering its books through the industry's leading distributor, Diamond Comics Distribution.

Now CSN can report that those titles and several others will be returning to comic shops courtesy of Arcana Studios, who have acquired a number of Devil's Due titles. The books that Arcana will be publishing include:

- **Blade of Kumori:** She is the lone daughter of an old samurai, but the family has changed their purpose to for-profit security and assassination.
- **Breakdown:** A superhero becomes a deadly vigilante after the murder of his family.
- **Defex:** Five student scientists discover hidden powers in human DNA.
- **Kore:** A blundering college slacker releases evil from an ancient tomb.
- **Mercy Sparx:** A devil girl is contracted by Heaven to hunt down rogue angels.
- **Misplaced:** A powerful outcast from Utopia finds her new life on Earth.
- **Warstone:** Only a long lost half-elf, half-human can stop a dark sorcerer from ruling the Earth.

These titles are the latest additions to Arcana's growing line of books. "Arcana's schedule is on pace to publish eighty original graphic novels from January 2010 through June 2011, and the company's prime directive continues to be developing intellectual properties for branded entertainment," Tyler Nicol, vice president of marketing for Arcana, said. "Although still a young company, some of these projects have been developed for numerous media, including movies and animation."

"The acquisition of the Devil's Due intellectual properties is a fantastic opportunity to continue to grow our library, our characters and to develop new branded storyworlds while helping DDP to generate revenue going to its creditors in difficult times," Arcana's Sean Patrick O'Reilly said. "We will be working directly with Josh Blaylock, the creator of these properties... and we know this is going to lead to amazing opportunities. We are thrilled to be working with him on this project."

"I'm grateful not only that Sean is keeping me involved, but that he's also helping the company," added Blaylock.

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by Comic Shop News
in cooperation with newsarama.com

"Furthermore, it will breathe new life into a series of characters that otherwise would have gone dormant."

No word yet on the fate of *Jericho*, the Devil's Due title that continued the saga of the all-too-short-lived CBS television series set in a post-apocalyptic US after a mysterious nuclear attack—but as soon as the future of that series is determined, you'll read about it in CSN!



Mike Bullock & Michael Metcalf

CSNsider

• Mike Bullock has taken his popular *Lions, Tigers, and Bears* all-ages title to Hermes Press, which will kick off *Lions, Tigers, and Bears Volume 3* in March 2011; this is the first original material offered by Hermes, best known for its classic reprints of such projects as *Dark Shadows*, *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea*, and *Buck Rogers*.

"Michael Metcalf and I felt honored to have *Lions, Tigers, and Bears* leading the charge for the new Hermes Press line of original all-ages graphic novels,"

Bullock said. "I'm very happy that all the fans, young and old, get to enjoy the new book in an exciting new format, allowing them to get on the ground floor of a wondrous new era for the title."

• DC has announced contents changes for *Zatanna* #s 6, 7, & 8. The sixth issue will now feature interior art and a variant cover by Jesus Saiz. *Zatanna* #7 will now feature a story written by Adam Beechen with art by Chad Hardin & Wayne Faucher and a cover by Jesus Saiz; in this tale, a visit to Hollywood's new Magic Museum provides Zatanna with a surprising link to her father... and a very bizarre threat. And *Zatanna* #8, which kicks off the three-part "Pupaphobia" that explores Zatanna's fear of puppets, will be written by Paul Dini with art by Cliff Chiang and a cover by Stephane Roux.

• *End of Nations* #s 1-3 have been cancelled by DC; the books will be resolicited at a later date to better coincide with the release of the videogame.

• It's the end of a *Fables* era; the first trade paperback in the series has now gone into its ninth printing—and it's no longer bargain-priced at \$9.99. The new edition is the first to carry a \$12.99 price—so if you've been putting off picking up the trade, you might want to act quickly in hopes that your friendly neighborhood comic shop still has a few of the \$9.99 edition in stock!

• Top Cow announced the promotion of Atom! Freeman to Director of Sales and Marketing. Freeman joined Top Cow as direct market liaison two months ago; he is working to develop a number of marketing and promotional plans, including Top Cow's new "buy *Witchblade* #144, get a code to download a free digital copy" program.

• Random House has announced that they will cease publishing all their licensed manga titles as those books (offered under the Del Rey Manga imprint) shift to Kodansha USA Publishing. Kodansha will now publish the

titles, while Random House acts as distributor of the books. Kodansha will announce its 2011 publishing plans later this year. Meanwhile, Del Rey will continue to publish several manga-influenced original graphic novels.

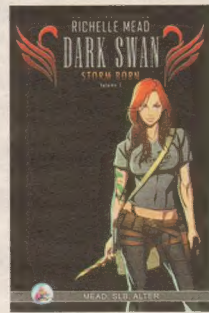
• Sea Lion Books has signed a deal to bring best-selling author Richelle Mead's *Dark Swan* novels to comics starting with the first book, *Storm Born*. The tale follows Eugenie Markham, a freelance shaman who battles ghosts and fey that sneaks into our world from the Otherworld. When an alarming prophecy suddenly makes her every Otherworldly creature's object of desire, Eugenie must dodge their advances while also fighting a dark power rising within her.

"*Storm Born* is one project I'm really looking forward to seeing," Sea Lion Books President David Dabel said. "Richelle Mead is truly a great storyteller who has created a rich world with unique characters."

"Sea Lion has done an incredible job in creating the characters and scenes of the *Dark Swan* world," said Mead, who is also the author of the Georgina Kincaid series and the best-selling young adult *Vampire Academy* novels. "The art is stunning and beautifully captures my vision. Eugenie fans are going to love this, and new readers will too."

Sea Lion will launch *Storm Born* as an eight-issue limited series beginning in early 2011.

• Sea Lion has also landed the graphic novel rights to P.C. Cast's *Goddess Summoning* series, beginning with



SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER

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Goddess of the Rose, a retelling of the classic tale of Beauty and the Beast. The first issue of the monthly comic is planned for an early 2011 release.

"I grew up reading comics—old school Superman, Swamp Thing, Thor, Batman, Incredible Hulk, Fantastic Four, etc.," Cast said. "Superheroes filled my childhood and shaped my imagination. So it's with great affection and pleasure that I enter the incredible playground of graphic novels. Plus, it's super-cool to see my characters and world and magic come alive."

•Dark Horse has cancelled their previously-announced collected volume of *Michael Moorcock's Elric of Melniboné Volume 1*. Instead, Moorcock has licensed the material for publication through Boom, who will be publishing it in collected form in 2011.

•Another Dark Horse project we've had questions about is *Red Tide: Chandler*, a reworked and expanded version of *Jim Steranko's* long-out-of-print noir visual novel. The book, which mixed illustrations, prose, and comic book material in a unique manner, was initially announced several years ago, and was on Dark Horse's schedule for summer 2010 release before going on hiatus. According to Dark Horse publisher Mike Richardson, "It's still in the works, but it's taking longer than anticipated." Dark Horse will resolicit *Red Tide* once Steranko is finished with the reworking and recoloring of the book.



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Book 'Em, DC-O!

DC was the first major publisher to launch a comprehensive collected editions plan; for more than two decades, they've led the field in offering quality paperback and hardcover editions of their finest stories. That tradition continues in the spring and summer of 2011, with several high-profile projects (and a few surprises) on the schedule.

DCU collected volumes in the works include:

- Batman and Robin Volume 3: The Return of Batman Deluxe Edition HC*, collecting Grant Morrison's *Batman & Robin* #s 13-16 and *Batman: The Return* #1. (May)
- Batman: Bruce Wayne—The Road Home HC*, collecting the eight *Road Home* oneshots by Fabian Nicieza, Mike W. Barr, Ramon Bachs, Cliff Richards, and many others. (June)
- Batman: Knight & Squire HC*, collecting the six-part by Paul Cornell & Jimmy Broxton. (June)

Ramon Bachs, Cliff Richards, and many others. (June)



- Brightest Day Volume 2 HC*, collecting *Brightest Day* #s 8-15. (May)
- The Flash by Geoff Johns Omnibus Volume 1 HC*, a 448-page volume collecting *The Flash* #s 164-176, *The Flash—Our Worlds at War* #1, *The Flash: Iron Heights* #1, and *The Flash: Secret Files* #3. (June)
- Green Arrow Volume 1: Into the Woods HC*, collecting *Green Arrow* #s 1-6. (June)

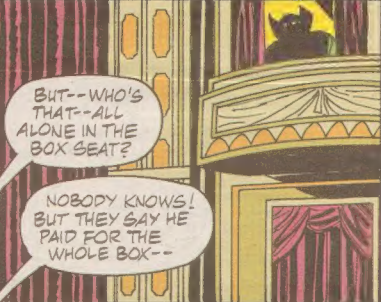


- Green Lantern: Secret Origin (New Edition) TP*, collecting Geoff Johns & Ivan Reis's *Green Lantern* #s 29-35, the story arc that is the inspiration for the upcoming *Green Lantern* film. (May)
- Superman: Grounded Volume 1 HC*, collecting J. Michael Straczynski & Eddy Barrows' *Superman* #s 700-703 & 705-707. (Aug)



- Wonder Woman: Odyssey Volume 1 HC*, collecting *Wonder Woman* #s 600-608. (Aug)

- Vertigo spring and summer highlights include:
- 99 Days HC*, a Vertigo crime original graphic novel by Matteo Casali & Kristian Donaldson. (June)
 - American Vampire Volume 2 HC*, collecting Scott Snyder's *American Vampire* #s 6-10. (May)
 - Cowboys HC*, A Vertigo Crime original graphic novel by Gary Phillips & Briant Hurtt. (July)
 - Return to Perdition HC*, a Vertigo Crime original graphic novel by Max Allan original & Terry Beatty and a sequel to the acclaimed best-seller *The Road to Perdition*. (Aug)
 - We3 Deluxe Edition HC*, collecting Grant Morrison & Frank Quitely's *We3* #s 1-3 plus bonus materials. (Aug)



- Back to Press**
- Artifacts* #2 2nd Printing (AUG108192), in stores 10/27.
 - Chaos War* #1 2nd Printing (AUG108225), in stores 11/3.
 - SkullKickers* #1 3rd Printing (AUG108191), in stores 10/27.
 - Thor* #15 2nd Printing (AUG108181), in stores 10/27.



ASTONISHING THOR #1 (OF 5)

Rob Rodi (W); Miko Choi (A)
(Marvel SEP100545 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

What begins as a mysterious series of natural disasters—hurricanes, tidal waves, and earthquakes—turns out to be something much more malevolent, as Thor finds himself confronting Ego, the Living Planet.

Why Should You Care?

Astrophysical meets metaphysical in this cosmic adventure that once again pits Ego against Thor, his first Marvel Comics adversary.

BATMAN #704

Tony Daniel (W/A)
(DC SEP100164 \$2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Bruce Wayne may be back, but that doesn't mean that Dick Grayson is stepping down as Batman. Instead, he continues to protect Gotham as the next phase of the Dark Knight saga begins.

Why Should You Care?

Not only is this a new chapter for Batman, it's also marks the return of the ever-popular *Tony Daniel* as both writer and artist of the flagship Batman book.



BATMAN INC #1

Grant Morrison (W); Yanick Paquette (A)
(DC SEP100156 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Bruce Wayne's return doesn't mark a return to the old status quo—instead, it marks the beginning of the most surprising new direction in Batman's history as the era of multiple Batmen begins!

Why Should You Care?

This is what Grant Morrison has been building to ever since he began his run on *Batman*—and if you think he's delivered plenty of surprises before, you haven't seen anything yet!

BATMAN: THE DARK KNIGHT #1

David Finch (W/A)
(DC SEP100159 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Bruce Wayne is back in the cape and cowl in a storyline that explores the horrific murder of one of Bruce Wayne's childhood friends—and the ramifications the brutal crime has on Batman's life.

Why Should You Care?

Superstar creator David Finch makes his debut as both writer and artist of this all-new monthly series.

BATMAN: THE RETURN #1

Grant Morrison (W);
David Finch & Scott McDaniel (A)
(DC AUG100143 \$4.99)

What's the Scoop?

Bruce Wayne is back... but that leaves plenty of questions left unanswered. What happens to Dick Grayson? How will Bruce Wayne deal with his son Damian as the new Robin? What about Tim Drake?

Why Should You Care?

If you didn't think the story could get even bigger and better than *The Return of Bruce Wayne*, then you underestimated Grant Morrison.

BATWOMAN #0

J.H. Williams III & W. Haden Blackman (W);
J.H. Williams III & Amy Reeder (A)
(DC SEP100162 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

This special zero issue acts as an introduction to Batwoman; picking up where *Batwoman: Elegy* left off, this issue also paves the way for the upcoming series.

Why Should You Care?

J.H. Williams III co-writes and co-illustrates this special primer issue that leads into one of the most eagerly-awaited series in years.

DIARY OF A WIMPY KID HC VOL 5

Jeff Kinney (W/A)
(Abrams AUG100729 \$13.95)

What's the Scoop?

Greg Heffley begins to suspect that growing up isn't all it's cracked up to be. Now he's having to deal with boy-girl parties, new responsibilities, and the increasing awkwardness of adolescence—and he has to face it all without the help of his best friend, Rowley.

Why Should You Care?

Jeff Kinney reminds us all of the joys and traumas of childhood in his clever and insightful best-selling tales. After four #1 best-sellers, Kinney has legions of readers ready to see what's in store for Greg during his journey through the tribulations of childhood and adolescence.

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS #1

John Rogers (W); Andrea Di Vito (A)
(IDW SEP100342 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

An intrepid hero, Adric Fell, leads his band through a world where civilization has fallen by the wayside and the shadows are home to all sorts of menaces.

Why Should You Care?

IDW launches the first D&D comic in two decades—and if the current mega-popularity of D&D is any indicator, there's a monstrously large audience tailor-made for the relaunch!



CSN TOP COMIC

FABLES #100

Bill Willingham & Mark Buckingham (W);
Mark Buckingham, Bill Willingham, Chrissie Zullo, Joao Ruas, & Steve Leialoha (A)
(Vertigo/DC AUG100257 \$9.99)

What's the Scoop?

The long-running conflict with Mister Dark comes to an end as one of the Fables agrees to take on the Dark Man in single combat—and when it's all over, the Fables are ready to make Fabletown their home once again.

Why Should You Care?

Not only does this issue feature the long-awaited culmination to the Mister Dark storyline, it also includes oodles of bonuses, including a prose story, a Burning Questions section, a Fable board game, and much more in a single squarebound issue.



GENERATION HOPE #1

Kieron Gillen (W); Salva Espin (A)
(Marvel SEP100654 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Joined by Rogue and the four new mutants who were gathered in *Uncanny X-Men*, Hope Summers heads to Japan to join Cyclops and Wolverine as they locate the mysterious fifth mutant detected by Cerebra... but will this mutant be a hero or a villain?

Why Should You Care?

Hope Summers' return is the catalyst for the addition of new mutants to the Marvelverse—and this limited series gives those new mutants a chance to establish their role in Marvel's future.



GEORGE R.R. MARTIN'S DOORWAYS #1 (OF 4)

George R.R. Martin (W); Stefano Martino (A)
(IDW SEP100362 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

When a strange, feral young woman suddenly appears in the middle of the highway causing a massive explosion, Dr. Tom Mason doesn't quite know what to make of her, or the strange device on her arm...

Why Should You Care?

Award-winning fantasy & SF novelist George R.R. Martin scripts this all-new comic book limited series inspired by his unaired 1993 TV pilot.

HALCYON #1

Marc Guggenheim & Tara Butters (W);
Ryan Bodenheimer & Mark Englert (A)
(Image SEP100433 \$2.99)

What's the Scoop?

What happens when the never-ending battle for truth and justice ends? What happens when the superheroes win? What happens once there is no crime, no war? When the heroes achieve their final victory, they learn that there are still challenges out there—challenges of a very different nature.

Why Should You Care?

Star writer Marc Guggenheim is joined by collaborator and spouse Tara Butters (*Reaper*) for a creator-owned series that takes superheroics to their ultimate end... and beyond!



CS: NOVEMBER

HELLBOY: DOUBLE FEATURE OF EVIL ONE SHOT #1

Mike Mignola (W); Richard Corben (A)
(Dark Horse SEP100037 \$3.50)

What's the Scoop?

Two short tales follow Hellboy as he enters two different, but very deadly houses: one a carnivorous home, the other a pagan temple.

Why Should You Care?

Any time that Mike Mignola and Richard Corben join forces, it's cause for celebration as far as Hellboy fans are concerned!



HOW TO UNDERSTAND ISRAEL IN 60 DAYS OR LESS HC

Sarah Glidden (W/A)
(DC JUL100244 \$24.99)

What's the Scoop?

A trip to Israel leads to a personal examination of one woman's beliefs and preconceptions as she tries to balance aspects of her faith with her observations as she travels the country and eventually makes a non-chaperoned excursion into the West Bank.

Why Should You Care?

Sarah Glidden explores the essential relationship between faith, public perception, and personal identity in a provocative and powerful graphic novel that seems particularly interesting in light of current Israeli-Palestinian events.

NIGHTMARES & FAIRY TALES: ANNABELLE'S STORY #1 (OF 4)

Serena Valentino (W); FSC (A)
(Amaze Ink SEP100745 \$3.50)

What's the Scoop?

Gwen and Annabelle venture off to find Morgan, a young woman who has been locked away in an asylum for many years for murders she did not commit. Soon, they find themselves in an abandoned town haunted by its own bloody past!

Why Should You Care?

Serena Valentino returns with a new four-issue tale of Gwen and Annabelle—and she's joined by FSC, the original artist of *Nightmares & Fairy Tales* who's back after a five-year absence.

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OZMA OF OZ #1 (OF 8)

Eric Shanower (W); Skottie Young (A)
(Marvel SEP100553 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Dorothy Gale and Billina the talking chicken are cast overboard and find themselves washed up in a world populated by Wheelers, strange men with wheels instead of hands and feet.

Why Should You Care?

Eric Shanower & Skottie Young continue their adaptations of L. Frank Baum's Oz novels with an eight-parter based on the third book—and yes, Dorothy is back!...

RETURN OF THE DAPPER MEN HC

Jim McCann (W); Janet Lee (A)
(Archaia SEP100782 \$24.95)

What's the Scoop?

Anoreve is a world between time—a place where children have played so long it's almost become work, machines have worked so long they have begun to play and all the clocks have stopped at the same time. Then 314 dapper-looking men appear, determined to restart the world. But one of those men, 41, wants to find out what made time stop to begin with...

Why Should You Care?

Jim McCann & Janet Lee present a compelling contemporary fairy tale that's sure to be on everyone's "best of 2010" list when awards time comes around.



SERENITY: SHEPHERD'S TALE HC

Zack Whedon (W); Chris Samnee (A)
(Dark Horse JUL100030 \$14.99)

What's the Scoop?

Who was Book before meeting Mal and the rest of the Serenity crew, how did he become one of their most trusted allies, and how did he find God in a bowl of soup? The answers are in here!

Why Should You Care?

Zack Whedon reveals the hitherto-unknown back story of one of the show's most beloved characters in an original hardcover graphic novella.

SPIDER-GIRL #1

Paul Tobin (W); Clayton Henry (A)
(Marvel SEP100575 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Anya Corazon balances the daily grind of teenage life with the excitement and adventure of a superheroine's existence as she trades in her Arana identity for the higher-profile life of a Spider-Girl.

Why Should You Care?

Paul Tobin & Clayton Henry promote Anya to first-string status, giving her the Spider-Girl name (although we still consider Mayday Parker the real Spider-Girl) and a top-tier guest stars, beginning with the Fantastic Four.

STAN LEE'S TRAVELER #1

Mark Waid (W); Chad Hardin (A)
(Boom SEP100889 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

A mysterious time-traveler battles the forces of evil wherever—and whenever—they might be found. And this time traveler has no qualms about altering the timeline if circumstances demand it...

Why Should You Care?

Concept by Stan Lee... Story and script by Mark Waid... and that's all the reason you need to add this one to your must-read list!



SUPERBOY #1

Jeff Lemire (W); Pier Gallo (A)
(DC SEP100182 \$2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Superboy embarks on a journey to a side of Smallville not even Superman knows about! What mysteries lurk beneath the surface of this all-American town—and what are their direct ties to Superboy?

Why Should You Care?

After far too long an absence, Superboy rejoins the DC schedule as a monthly series, and DC has tapped rising star Jeff Lemire to tell the tales.

T.H.U.N.D.E.R. AGENTS #1

Nick Spencer (W); Cafu (A)
(DC SEP100237 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Was Neil Young right? Is it better to burn out than fade away? T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents must think so, since they agree to be the bearer of amazing powers that will also kill them...

Why Should You Care?

Nick Spencer updates the Silver Age classic series creation, taking the T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents into the 21st century with a next-generation tale complete with intriguing first-generation links.

VAMPIRELLA #1

Eric Trautmann (W); Wagner Reis (A)
(Dynamite SEP100927 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Vampirella is back—and she's hot on the trail of her nemesis, Vlad Dracula. But something even more sinister than vampires lurks in the shadows... something even Dracula himself has cause to fear...

Why Should You Care?

After languishing in publisher purgatory for far too long, Vampirella returns to the spotlight with a new publisher, a new direction, and new vitality that's well deserved for a comic book legend!



VICTORIAN UNDEAD II: HOLMES VS DRACULA #1 (OF 5)

Ian Edginton (W); Davide Fabbri (A)
(WildStorm/DC SEP100283 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson investigate the wreck of the ship, the *Demeter*—its crew missing, the corpse of its Captain lashed to the ship's wheel—and soon realize this is merely the opening salvo of war from beyond the grave.

Why Should You Care?

Sherlock Holmes confronts Dracula in the second *Victorian Undead* series—and while this won't be the first project to pit the two Victorian icons, you can rest assured that Ian Edginton will make it one of the best!

Check 'Em Out: Books You Should Be Reading

ALAN MOORE'S NEONOMICOM #4 (OF 4)

(Avatar SEP100819 \$3.99)
Alan Moore's journey into the mysterious world Lovecraftian comes to a surprising and powerful end with this issue—and what an ending it is!

ALL NEW BATMAN THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #1

(Johnny DC SEP100271 \$2.99)
The animation-style super-team-up kicks off with the World's Finest pairing: Batman and Superman.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #648

(Marvel SEP100569 \$3.99)
Dan Slott launches "Big Time," the followup to "Brand New Day," with changes galore for Peter Parker.

AVENGERS: CHILDREN'S CRUSADE #3 (OF 9)

(Marvel SEP100590 \$3.99)
The search for the Scarlet Witch is finally over as the Young Avengers find Wanda. But is she still the Scarlet Witch?

BATMAN CONFIDENTIAL #50

(DC SEP100181 \$4.99)
This extra-sized issue, written by Marc Guggenheim, features art by Jerry Bingham, making his return to the Dark Knight after more than 2 decades.

FANTASTIC FOUR #585

(Marvel SEP100619 \$2.99)
Jonathan Hickman's FF-member-killing story arc "Three" continues... and it's a real killer!

LIFE WITH ARCHIE: MARRIED LIFE #4

(Archie AUG100778 \$3.99)
The best Archie series in decades continues with two separate stories in every issue—one exploring a reality in which Archie marries Veronica, the other a reality in which it's Archie and Betty who are the happy couple. Ignore the kid-friendly cover designs—this is the most thought-provoking and sophisticated comic in Archie history!

OSBORN #1

(Marvel SEP100577 \$3.99)
The world's most dangerous felon is in the world's top super-max security prison—an institution so secret even the vice president doesn't know it exists. But can any cell contain Norman Osborn?



RED ROBIN #17

(DC SEP100180 \$2.99)
How does the return of Bruce Wayne and the beginning of Batman, Inc. work into Red Robin's plans?

S.E. HINTON'S PUPPY SISTER GN

(Bluewater SEP100861 \$9.99)
Readers of all ages will enjoy this adaptation of S.E. Hinton's tale of a puppy who becomes human.

SUPERMAN #705

(DC SEP100185 \$2.99)
J. Michael Straczynski's "Grounded" brings the Man of Steel to the Chicago area on his quest to rediscover his human side.

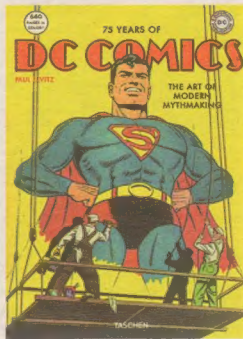
TIME MASTERS: VANISHING POINT #5 (OF 6)

(DC SEP100211 \$3.99)
None of the Time Masters' problems in the time continuum compares to what's in store for them when they cross paths with the Reverse Flash! In fact, nothing will be the same for the entire universe after this fateful meeting!

FYI: Must-Have Additions to Your Reference Library

75 YEARS OF DC COMICS HC

(Taschen AUG101268 \$200.00)
Paul LeVitz presents an insightful, fascinating, image-filled look at the history of comics' pre-eminent publisher. No matter how much you know about DC, there'll be facts in here you've never heard and images you've never seen... until now!



COMICS SHOP SC

(FW SEP101235 \$24.99)
This new price guide combines market trend analyses, articles, features, a grading guide and more than 3000 full-color images.

DOONESBURY AND THE ART OF G B TRUDEAU HC

(Yale University SEP101290 \$49.95)
Brian Walker offers insight into *Gerry Trudeau's* creative process, his early influences, his non-comics work, and more.

FOUNDERS OF COMIC FANDOM: PROFILES OF 90 LUMINARIES

(McFarland SEP101251 \$35.00)
Bill Schelly spotlights 90 of fandom's most influential people.

JEFFREY JONES: A LIFE IN ART HC

(IDW SEP100407 \$49.99)
Joe Pruett presents an insightful and entrancing look at the career and art of the incomparable Jeffrey Jones.



SHAZAM! GOLDEN AGE OF WORLDS MIGHTIEST MORTAL HC

(Abrams JUL101263 \$35.00)
Chip Kidd & Geoff Spear offer a look at the seventy-year history of the World's Mightiest Mortal and the ephemera, toys, and art he has inspired.

STAN LEE'S HOW TO DRAW COMICS SC

(Watson Guphill AUG101309 \$24.99)
Stan Lee may not be an artist, but he's worked with the best, and now he's sharing what he's learned over the years. In this book, Stan sets out to teach everything he knows about writing, drawing, and creating comic book characters. The book focuses primarily on action-adventure comics, but will touch upon other genres and styles.

STAN LEE'S UNIVERSE SC

(TwoMorrows SEP101154 \$26.95)
Roy Thomas & Danny Fingeroth compile a massive collection of interviews with and memories about one of comics' most charismatic and influential creators.



WILL EISNER'S DREAMERS: LIFE IN COMICS HC

(Bloomsbury SEP101256 \$26.00)
Michael Schumacher delves beneath Eisner's public persona to draw connections between Eisner's life and his art.

Collected Cool: November's Best Reprint Volumes

BATTLE CHASERS' ANTHOLOGY HC

(Image SEP100443 \$100.00)
This massive hardcover collects—for the very first time—every issue of the sadly-unfinished *Battle Chasers* by Joe Madureira.

BOY COMMANDOS BY JOE SIMON AND JACK KIRBY HC

(DC JUL100194 \$49.99)
DC continues its comprehensive reprinting of classic Simon & Kirby material with this collection of Boy Commandos tales from *Detective* #s 64-73, *World's Finest* #s 8-9, and *Boy Commandos* #s 1 & 2.

CASTLE WAITING HC VOL 2

(Fantagraphics SEP101022 \$29.99)
This 384-page hardcover compiles another heaping helping of Linda Medley's engaging fantasy series.

GREEN LANTERN OMNIBUS HC VOL 1

(DC AUG100208 \$75.00)
At last, DC leaps into the *Omnibus* field with this full-color collection of the first 24 Silver Age *Green Lantern* comics—*Showcase* #s 22-24 & *Green Lantern* #s 1-21.

GREAT TREASURY OF CHRISTMAS COMIC BOOK STORIES HC

(IDW SEP100411 \$34.99)
This holiday collection includes stories by Walt Kelly, John Stanley, and many more.

HORROR: THE HORROR COMICS THE GOVERNMENT DIDN'T WANT YOU TO READ

(Abrams AUG101286 \$24.95)
Collecting some of the most important and neglected stories in comics history—the pre-Code horror comics of the 1950s.

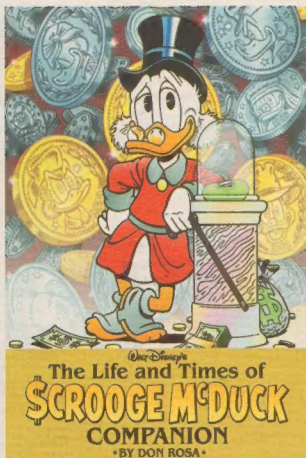
INCAL CLASSIC COLLECTION DELUXE HC

(Humanoids SEP101048 \$99.95)
The international comic masterpiece by Moebius & Jodorowsky collected in an oversized hardcover with slipcase. Presented in its original colors for the first time!

LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES: GREAT DARKNESS SAGA DELUXE HC

(DC JUL100191 \$39.99)
People have been asking for this collection for years, and at long last here it is: the classic Paul Levitz-Keith Giffen Darkseid-Legion saga, compiled in a single volume.





LIFE & TIMES OF SCROOGE MCDUCK COMPANION HC

(Boom SEP100905 \$24.99)

Presenting the pre-chapters, the post-chapters, and the in-between chapters of Don Rosa's Eisner Award-winning *The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck*, all in one volume.

MARVEL MASTERWORKS: GOLDEN AGE MARVEL COMICS HC VOL 5

(Marvel JUN100650 \$59.99)

Marvel continues to revisit the Golden Age with this collection of *Marvel Mystery Comics* #s 17-20.

MICHAEL TURNER'S SOULFIRE DEFINITIVE ED TP VOL 1

(Aspen SEP100802 \$39.99)

This hefty collection assembles *Soulfire* #s 1-10, the *Preview*, and the special zero issue, along with bonus items (scripts, pinups, and more). This one is a must-have for fans of Turner's art—and that includes pretty much everyone, doesn't it?

RIP KIRBY HC VOL 3

(IDW SEP100404 \$49.99)

Collecting *Alex Raymond* strips from 9/24/51 through 4/17/54.

SPAWN ORIGINS DELUXE ED HC VOL 2

(Image SEP100470 \$100.00)

This hefty compendium collects Todd McFarlane's *Spawn* #s 26-50.

SUPERMAN VS MUHAMMAD ALI DELUXE HC

(DC APR100224 \$19.99)

SUPERMAN VS MUHAMMAD ALI FACSIMILE EDITION HC

(DC APR100223 \$39.99)

This hard-to-find classic by Dennis O'Neil & Neal Adams returns to print in two editions: a standard-sized hardcover with bonus material, and a deluxe tabloid-sized edition that presents the story in the same large size as its original release.

THOR BY MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI OMNIBUS HC

(Marvel MAY100658 \$64.99)

JMS's entire run on *Thor* is compiled in this single volume that includes *Fantastic Four* #s 536-537, *Thor* #s 1-12 & 600-603, and *Giant Size Finale*.

TREASURE CHEST TP VOL 1

(Bluewater SEP100863 \$15.99)

Compiling the inspirational 1940's-1960's series that featured work by Reed Crandall, Graham Ingels, Joe Orlando, Joe Sinnott, Murphy Anderson, and Jim Mooney, among others.

Comic Shop News

USAGI YOJIMBO SPECIAL EDITION HC

(Fantagraphics SEP101020 \$100.00)

Fantagraphics compiled a slipcased set collecting Stan Sakai's first seven *Usagi Yojimbo* books.

WALKING DEAD TP VOL 13: TOO FAR GONE

(Image SEP100413 \$14.99)

Now that everyone's a *Walking Dead* fan, there's going to be quite a crowd waiting for this compilation of *Walking Dead* #s 73-78.

XENOZOIC COMPLETE COLLECTION TP

(Fleek AUG101027 \$39.95)

Mark Schultz's classic adventure-fantasy series returns to print in a single volume.

Hot Commodities: November's Hottest Merchandising & Collectibles

COVER GIRLS OF THE DCU HARLEY QUINN STATUE

(DC Direct NOV090257 \$99.99)

Adam Hughes supplies the designs for this striking statue depicting the Joker-obsessed bad girl in her harlequin outfit, complete with an oversized mallet.



COVER GIRLS OF THE DCU: BATGIRL STATUE

(DC Direct APR100306 \$99.99)

Barbara Gordon is back in action in this classic statue based on the art of Adam Hughes.

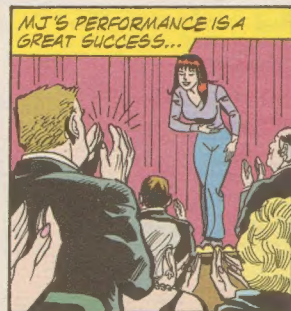
DC UNIVERSE ONLINE STATUE: BATMAN

(DC Direct APR100299 \$80.00)

DC UNIVERSE ONLINE STATUE: CATWOMAN

(DC Direct APR100298 \$75.00)

Jim Lee's distinctive art is the inspiration for the first in a line of statues based on the MMORPG. You'll have to wait until 2011 for the game, but you can start collecting the statues right now!



FABLES BIGBY WOLF BUST

(DC Direct JAN100376 \$60.00)

FABLES SNOW WHITE BUST

(DC Direct JAN100375 \$60.00)

Mark Buckingham supplies the designs for these busts inspired by the acclaimed *Fables* "Storybook Love" story arc; each bust depicts the figure atop a base of relief sculptures seen in the story.

IRON MAN ORIGINAL ARMOR MUSEUM POSE STATUE

(Bowen AUG101633 \$175.00)

Before he became the sleek red-and-gold Avenger everyone knows today, he was a hero clad in heavy grapt armor. This striking statue depicts Iron Man in that original armor.



JOKER 1/4 SCALE MUSEUM QUALITY STATUE

(DC Direct APR100304 \$325.00)

The Joker is more malevolent than ever in this oversized museum quality mixed-media statue complete with fabric costume.

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